

Attorney Docket No. P63163USO
Serial No.: 09/147,362

Remarks/Arguments:

Claim 77, presently amended, and claims 78-87, previously presented, are pending.

Claims 77 is amended, hereby, by inserting "Leu Leu Ser Leu (residues 1 to 4 of SEQ ID NO: 2)" as an alternative for the variable "Z" in the "general formula (I)" of the claimed synthetic peptide. This is necessary to effect explicit antecedent basis for subject matter recited in dependent claim 79, i.e., the synthetic peptide of sequence "LLSLWGCRGRLVCYTSVQWNET" (SEQ ID NO: 2).

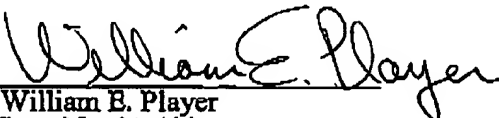
Claims 77-87 as originally presented were allowed, pursuant to the notice of allowability mailed March 8, 2005. The only change to the allowed claims – in claim 77 – is for the purpose of effecting explicit antecedent basis for allowed subject matter found in a dependent claim, as explained above. Accordingly, the instant amendment does not affect the aforesaid allowance of originally presented claims 77-87.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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